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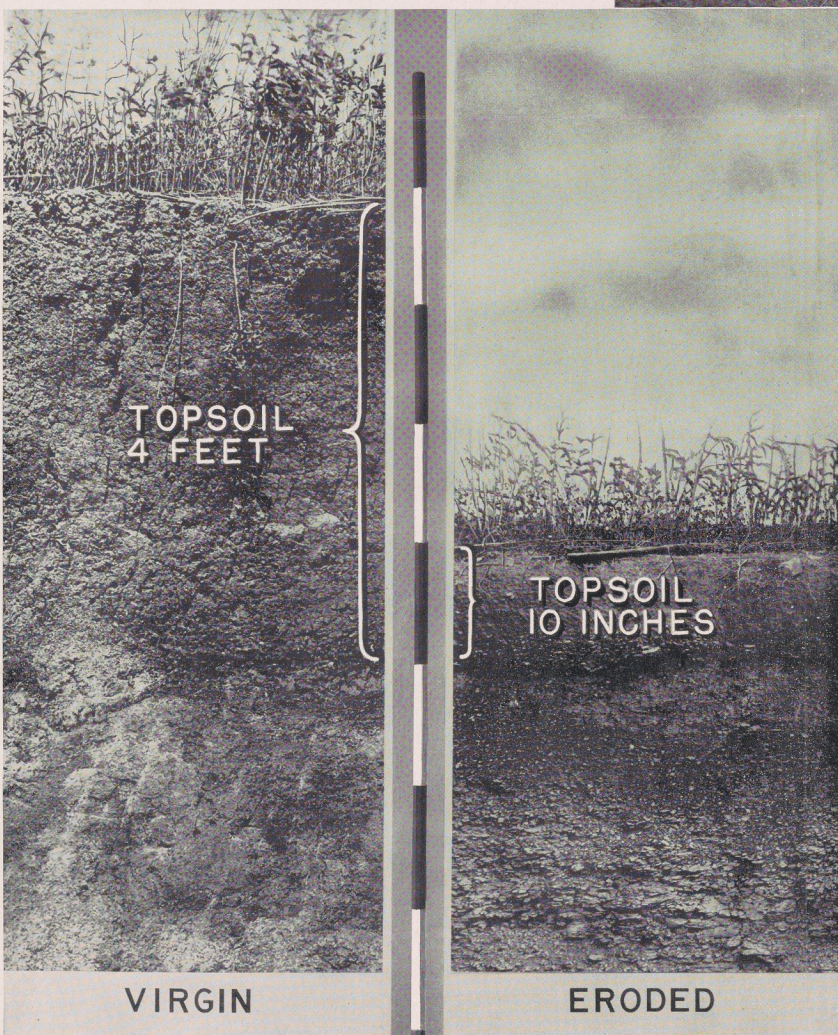
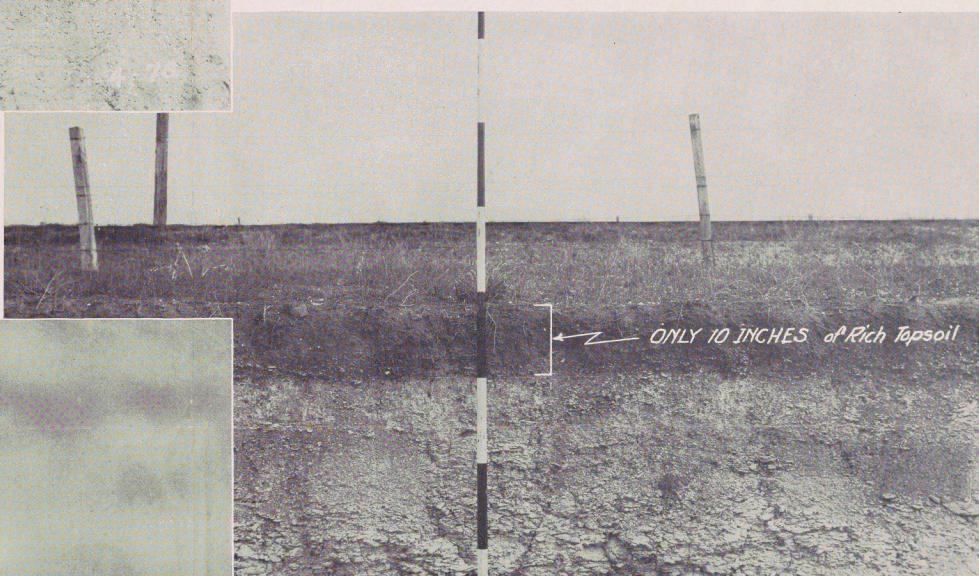
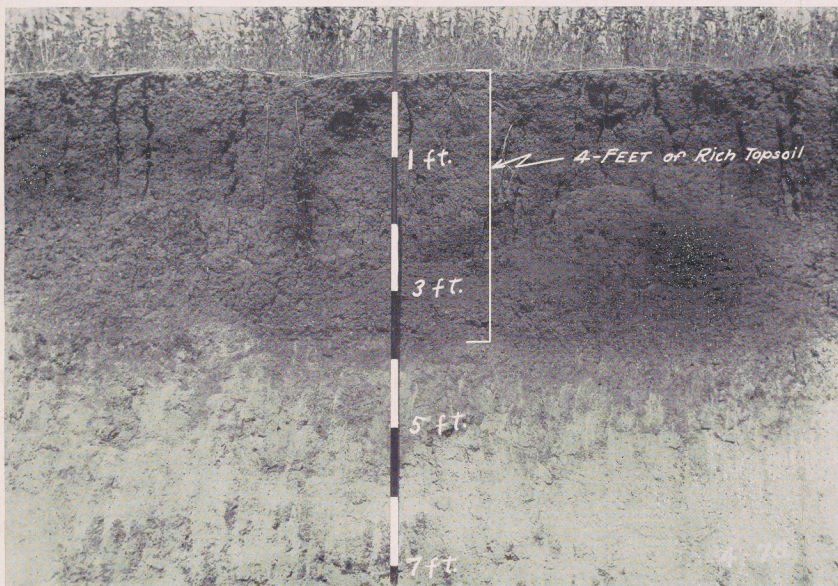
Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

How badly has erosion damaged your farm ?

This simple erosion survey will tell you

Determine original depth of topsoil by digging in protected woods or in virgin sod. Undisturbed sod can usually be found along fence rows or in school or church yards.

Do not measure virgin or cultivated soil where wind or water may have deposited silt.



Find the depth of topsoil remaining in an adjoining field or pasture by digging near the undisturbed soil at about the same level and where the grade is approximately the same.

Repeat this comparison for steep and gentle slopes. Check knolls and ridges.

0 to $\frac{1}{4}$ topsoil lost — slight.
 $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ topsoil lost — moderate.
 $\frac{3}{4}$ to all topsoil lost — severe.

After the removal and depletion of surface soil, erosion occurs more rapidly unless protective measures are used.

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Soil Conservation Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
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